

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 5, 2004

H.R. 5163

Norman Y. Mineta Research and Special Programs Reorganization Act

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on September 29, 2004

Under current law, the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) within the Department of Transportation (DOT) conducts research into a variety of transportation issues, and regulates the operation of pipelines and the transportation of hazardous materials. H.R. 5163 would divide RSPA into two new agencies. One agency would be called the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, and it would continue the regulation of pipelines and the transportation of hazardous materials. The other agency would be called the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, and it would conduct research programs. The bill also would move two existing parts of the department—the Bureau of Transportation Statistics and the Office of Intermodalism—into the new research agency.

Based on information from DOT, and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 5163 would cost less than \$1 million each year beginning in fiscal year 2005. Such amounts would be used to hire additional staff to administer the new agencies and to cover the costs of reconfiguring some of the office space. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 5163 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or other tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Rachel Milberg. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.